

Draft Minutes
Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board
NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit Street, STE 10, Concord, NH
October 17, 2008 Meeting

*Items underlined and in color are hyperlinked to documents.

Members in Attendance: Clifton C. Below, Commissioner, NHPUC, Jack Ruderman of NH Office of Energy & Planning, Meredith Hatfield of the Office of Consumer Advocate, Robert Scott of the Department of Environmental Services, Cordell Johnston for Susan Olsen of the NH Municipal Association, Brian Wujcik of NH Homebuilders Association, Alan Linder of NH Legal Assistance, Representative David Borden, Senator Martha Fuller Clark, Richard Ober of NH Charitable Foundation, Dick Henry of the Jordan Institute, Wes Golomb of NH SEA, Ken Walsh of NH Fire Marshall Office, Dean Christon of NH Housing, Michael Connor of NH Department of Administrative Services.

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: Gil Gelineau of PSNH, John Puc of National Grid, Deb Jarvis of Unitil, Ray Gosney of NH Electric Co-op, James Grady of Lightec, Inc., Charles Niebling of New England Wood Pellet, Janet Brewer of Ocean Bank.

Other Meeting Attendees: Tom Getz, Stephen Eckberg, Eric Steltzer, Marcia Thunberg, Jon Osgood, Jennifer Ducharme, Kate Peters, Heidi Kroll, Cordell Johnston, Henry Veilleux, Bill Gabler, Bob King, Dana Nute, Keith Freischlag, Domenic Armano, Russell Aney, Ben Frost, Donald Sienkiewicz, Michael Licata, Carolyn Demorest, Carol Woods, Tom Belair, Frank Melanson.

Link to Meeting Agenda: [Meeting Agenda](#)

1. Call to Order & Opening Remarks: Chair Richard Ober - The meeting was called to order at 9:09 am. The Chair asked that the 5th (Draft Proposed Rules for GHG Fund) and 6th (Preliminary Planning: Goals, Work Plan, Priorities) agenda items be switched in order as he would need to leave before the end of the meeting and wanted to be present for the 6th item.

Alan Linder - Noted for the record that New Hampshire Legal Assistance represents low income citizens of the State of New Hampshire.

Thomas Getz discussed the [New Hampshire Statement of Financial Interest - RSA 15-A](#) form that members are being asked to fill out. The purpose of this form is to ensure that the duties of members of the board do not give rise to a conflict of interest. Members were asked to fill out this form and return it to [Jennifer Ducharme](#), Legal Assistant with the NHPUC, by next week so that she can file all of the forms with the Secretary of State's office.

2. MINUTES OF 10/1/08 Organizational Meeting were briefly discussed.

Meredith Hatfield said that she had a number of minor corrections that she would submit to Jennifer. The draft minutes were approved subject to minor revisions submitted by Ms. Hatfield.

3. Observations / Questions on Board's Charge: There were no comments.

4. Overview of Some Existing Efficiency Programs. There were 5 presentations given at the meeting. They are briefly summarized below with links to the presentations.

Tom Frantz: [History of the New Hampshire Energy Efficiency Working Group](#)

Director of the Electric Division at the NHPUC presented regarding:

- o The History of the Electric Industry and how the Core Program began
- o The effects of the Electric Restructuring Act
- o [Order No. 22,514](#) (February 28, 1997) which provided the "final plan" for the restructuring of the NH electric industry which was affirmed in part and vacated in part after numerous motions for rehearing were filed.
- o [Order No. 22,875](#) (March 20, 1998) which was the Order on the requests for rehearing and also ordered the start of the New Hampshire Energy Efficiency Working Group
- o [Order No. 23,574](#) (November 1, 2000) which established guidelines for electric rates based on the [Energy Efficiency Working Group Final Report](#) filed with the Commission on July 6, 1999.

Gil Gelineau: [NH Saves - Core Energy & Energy Efficiency - Presentation](#)

Employed by Public Service of New Hampshire although presented on behalf of all the electric utilities, www.nhsaves.com; Presented information concerning the [NH Core Energy Efficiency Programs](#) and focused on:

- o Core Energy Program Impacts from 2002-2007
- o Types of Core Energy Programs
- o System benefits charge (SBC) funds and how they are used
- o Other New England states programs and funding
- o Residential, commercial (both small & large) and industrial programs
- o Forward capacity market information
- o Energy efficiency programs financing options
- o Other opportunities and things to think about

Ray Gosney: [NH Electric Co-op Perspectives on Energy Efficiency - Presentation](#)

Vice President of the NH Electric Cooperative presented on the co-op's perspectives on energy efficiency and sustainable energy. The presentation focused on:

- o Scope of energy efficiency and retail renewable initiatives
- o Involvement in new technology
- o Wholesale energy and renewable resource and procurement approaches
- o Energy efficiency programs, rebates and impacts
- o NHEC SmallSteps Program - www.smallsteps.coop
- o Operational carbon footprint reduction programs

Deb Jarvis: [National Grid and Northern Utilities - Joint Gas Energy Efficiency Programs - Presentation](#)

Deb Jarvis presented on behalf of National Grid and Northern Utilities jointly (with additional input from John Puc from National Grid) to inform the board about Gas Energy Efficiency Programs available in New Hampshire from the 2 companies. The presentation included:

- o National Grid and Northern Utilities demographics
- o Residential energy efficiency programs offered by both companies
- o Small & large commercial energy efficiency programs offered by both companies
- o Low income programs available
- o Regional energy efficiency programs through www.gasnetworks.com
- o Additional program offerings such as technology demonstrations, economic redevelopment and an online business energy analyzer.

Dana Nute: [Community Action Partnership Presentation](#)

Director of the Housing Rehabilitation and Energy Conservation program at Community Action Program (Belknap-Merrimack Counties) presented information regarding:

- o The different Community Action Agencies available throughout NH
- o Types of programs offered by the agencies
- o The Homeownership Rehabilitation program
- o Different program statistics
- o Agency housing projects and low income programs, including weatherization
- o Electric, gas & fuel assistance programs

6. Preliminary Planning: Goals, Work Plan, Priorities. Richard Ober

discussed a handout that he circulated to members and interested parties entitled ["Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board - Scope, Timelines and Categories of Work."](#) This document should be used as guide for the next six months and beyond as well as a reference for members of the board. Members were also asked to review this form and determine where they think they would be most valuable to the group in terms of knowledge and experience. Members will be working as a whole as much as possible but will also be asked to break up into smaller sub-groups in order to focus on more specific issues.

The board would like to have a draft of the report due on December 1st completed by the November 13th meeting so that the draft can be discussed and comments can be received and incorporated into the final report prior to the 12/1 deadline.

Representative David Borden noted that the board needs to focus some of its efforts in dealing with mobile home parks and the lack of services available to them. Many times, programs and financing do not apply and are not available to mobile home parks and he has spoken with numerous mobile home owners who are in need of assistance.

Clifton Below commented that the board also needs to discuss funding strategies such as Energy Star and other energy efficient mortgage efforts and other financing programs. Loan programs such as the Ocean Bank energy efficiency business loan is a great resource but is not well known.

Dick Henry asked that members try to think about other people who have knowledge or specific experience within an area being analyzed. These stakeholders might be asked to serve on sub-committees or work groups. The more resources that the board can utilize, then the better the outcome will be.

Richard Ober had to leave the meeting early for another commitment and turned the chair over to the Vice-Chair, Jack Ruderman.

5. Draft Proposed Interim Rules for the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

Fund. Board members and interested parties in attendance reviewed the draft proposed interim rules for the GHG Emissions Reduction Fund and the board heard comments and recommendations regarding specific sections of the rules which parties believed should be revised, added or deleted. Commissioner Below noted that these are just interim rules to be in place until approximately June 1, 2009. After adoption the PUC will develop final rules in which additional comments can be made and public hearings will be held. Members and interested parties were urged to submit written comments to the PUC with their revisions by end of day on Tuesday, October 21. Parties were asked to submit written comments to [Jennifer Ducharme](#), the administrative contact for the board at the PUC. Various comments and changes proposed by the parties at the meeting are summarized below.

- o Puc 2601.02(d) should be changed to read: Other state and local governmental entities and not just "agencies" whereas not all state government bodies are considered agencies.
- o The term "greenhouse gas emissions" should be defined.
- o The term "private entities" should be defined.
- o The term "conservation" should be defined if parties believe that the term differs from the definition of energy efficiency.
- o The term "HVAC" may need to be defined if used in the rules.
- o Puc 2602.08 "Energy Efficiency" definition should be changed to use a word other than "different" in the definition.
- o Puc 2602.10 The "low income residential customer" definition should be revised to remove the exclusivity of eligibility for low-income programs in the CORE program as the eligibility criteria; other program eligibility criteria should also used as, for example, the CORE program does not account for gas customers. Also, another suggestion was for the definition of a low income customer to reflect someone "whose

household income is no more than 60 percent of the statewide household median income, including but not limited to customers who are eligible for energy assistance" or a similar phrase, since median income data is released more frequently than poverty data.

- o Puc 2602.05 "Demand response programs" definition should be expanded to incorporate how funds will be used and applied. The phrase "provided that such mechanisms also reduce greenhouse gas emissions" should also be added.
- o Puc 2603.01(b) - the term residential homes should be revised to read "single family residential housing" so not to exclude multi-family homes.
- o The statute uses the term "at least ten percent" throughout but the rules use the term "no less than ten percent"; rules should be consistent with statute.
- o Puc 2604.03 "Selection of Proposals" does not seem to have an enforcement mechanism stated in the rule to make sure that parties are going through as planned; there is no accountability factor.
- o Research and development as well as education are not accounted for in the rules as they stand now.
- o Puc 2605.01 should read "provide for the rebate to all electric ratepayers" and not "provide for the rebate to electric all ratepayers".

7. Confirm Next Meetings & Ending Notes

The agenda for the next meeting will be developed at a later date and circulated.

The next Meeting was scheduled for October 31, 2008, followed by another meeting on November 13, 2008. All meetings are scheduled from 9:00 to 12:00 and are to be held at the Public Utilities Commission in Hearing Room A. For copies of materials discussed at the meetings or general questions in regard to the meetings please contact the PUC Legal Assistant, Jennifer Ducharme at jennifer.ducharme@puc.nh.gov.

8. The meeting adjourned at 12:33 pm.